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Hartlepool Port Health Authority

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year Ended 31st December 1960

By JOHN CRABB,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.

Hartlepool Port Health Authority

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Hartlepool Port Health Authority
1960-61

Chairman - - W. HUNTER

Elected by West Hartlepool Corporation :

T. BREWARD, 14, Powlett Road, West Hartlepool.
J. ADDISON, 70, Jesmond Gardens, West Hartlepool.
H. L. HOGG, C.B.E., J.P, 7, The Grove, West Hartlepool.
G. P. K. GALLIMORE, Ambleside Manor, Elwick Road, West Hartlepool.
N. S. BROUGH, 17, Caledonian Road, West Hartlepool.
J. H. McCRAINOR, M.C., 37, Linden Grove, West Hartlepool.
A. L. ADAMSON, 51, Grange Road, West Hartlepool.
D. R. ASHTON, 202, Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.
D. W. AISBITT, 246, Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.
J. W. BIRD, 51, Grange Road, West Hartlepool.

Elected by Hartlepool Corporation :

T. T. AIRD, Park Hotel, Park Road, West Hartlepool.
W. HUNTER, 13, Wilster Terrace, Hartlepool.
T. MARINE, 333, West View Road, Hartlepool.
W. C. POUNDER, 4, Howden Road, Hartlepool.
D. WALLER, 82, Miers Avenue, Hartlepool.

Fixed Days of Meetings

At the Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool.

16th June, 1960	8th December, 1960	20th April, 1961
15th September, 1960	16th February, 1961	15th June, 1961

Each day at 6-0 *p.m.*

Finance and Port Committees :

All the Members of the Authority are Members of these Committees.

The Committees meet on the same day as the Meeting is held.

Officers :

Clerk	C. GILBERT BUNTING, Solicitor, Exchange Building, 66, Church Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3132-3 (2 lines).
Medical Officer	J. CRABB, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G., 221, Stockton Rd., West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3035.
Deputy Medical Officer	JOHN T. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., Owton Manor West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3044.
Inspector	R. J. KNOTT, M.B.E. Exchange Building, 66 Church St., West Hartlepool. Telephone: 2015.
Deputy Inspector ..	G. A. WARD, 12, Beaconsfield Street, Hartlepool, Telephone : 6112.
Rat-Catcher	H. MENHENNET, 19, Penrith Street, Hartlepool.

ANNUAL REPORT

WEST HARTLEPOOL

To The Chairman and Members of the Hartlepool Port Health Authority.

Gentlemen,

In compliance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1960.

The number of vessels entering the port was less than last year but the tonnage of vessels entering is nearly the same.

There has been a decrease in the export of coal and magnesite but a slight increase in the export of basic slag.

The imports have nearly doubled due to the large increase in the import of iron ore and a fair increase in sawnwood.

There has been no case of infectious disease in the port during the year and the ordinary sickness incidence remains normal.

Work under the International Sanitary Regulations, 1951, has resulted in the issue of 58 deratting exemption certificates compared with 65 in 1959. There have been no fumigations carried out during the year. Some traces of rats have been found on some ships but for the third year in succession no rats have been recovered, and while this is in some measure due to the trade of the port it is also an indication of the small amount of rodent life existing on board ships today.

Crews' accommodation continues to be of a high standard and the nuisances which have been dealt with were of a minor character.

The work carried out by your Inspector, his deputy and the ratcatcher has been to my entire satisfaction, and a record of the Inspector's work is included in the report.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given me by the Chief Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and his staff, to Captain Stathers, M.B.E. and his assistant dock-masters, to the Ministry of Transport Surveyor, to H.M. Immigration Officers and also the Pilot Master and Pilots for their hearty co-operation with the officials of the Authority.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN CRABB,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I—STAFF

Table A.

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Other Appointments Held
C. Gilbert Bunting	Clerk to the Authority	19.10.1922	Solicitor	Part-time Appointment
John Crabb	Medical Officer	9.12.1948	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.	Part-time Appointment
John T. Smith	Deputy Med. Officer	20.9.1951	M.B., Ch.B.	Part-time Appointment
R. J. Knott	Inspector	1.12.1945	Master Mariner, San. Insp., S.I.J.B., Insp. of Meat and other Food, R.S.I.	None
G. A. Ward	Deputy Inspector	1.10.1937	San. Insp., S.I.J.B., Inspector of Meat & Other Food, R.S.I.	San. Insp. Borough of Hartlepool.
H. Menhennet	Rat-Catcher	18.3.1947	Nil	Permitted to do private work.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. John Crabb,
"Briardene,"
Foggy Furze,
West Hartlepool.
Telephone : Hartlepools 3035.

SECTION II—Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the year 1960.

Table B.

Ships from	No.	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports	369	498,287	47	367	Nil
Coastwise ..	635	595,804	27	576	Nil
Total ..	1,004	1,094,091	74	943	Nil

SECTION III—Character of Shipping and Trade during the year.

Table C.

Passenger Traffic—

This is not an approved Passenger Port and there is therefore no regular passenger traffic. Certain passengers are allowed to land subject to certain restrictions imposed by H.M. Immigration Office. The following information has been supplied through the courtesy of H.M. Immigration Officer, Middlesbrough and West Hartlepool.

No. of passengers INWARDS	161
No. of passengers OUTWARDS	118
Alien passengers embarked	102
Alien passengers landed	140

Cargo Traffic—Principal Imports :—

Pitprops	35,718	tons
Mining Timber	13,398	,,
Sawn Wood	146,117	,,
Sleepers	7,082	,,
Other wood goods	705	,,
Iron and Steel	1,591	,,
Iron Ore	774,947	,,
Wood pulp	16,167	,,
Petroleum	12,981	,,
Miscellaneous	635	,,
Fish	2,188	,,

Principal Exports :—

Coal and Coke	1,310,573	tons
Magnesite	24,157	,,
Machinery	480	,,
General	1,319	,,
Basic Slag	70,157	,,
Limestone	13,337	,,

The above particulars have been supplied through the courtesy of the British Transport Commission, Mainsforth Terrace, West Hartlepool.

Principal Ports from which Ships Arrive—

Cargo	Foreign Ports
Props ..	Archangel, Arendal, Frederikshavn, Frederikssund, Kemi, Kotka, Leningrad, Lillesand, Risor, Toppila, Tvedestrand, Wasa, Yxpila.
Timber ..	Abo, Amal, Archangel, Blankaholm, Bordeaux, Danzig, Halmstad, Hango, Haukipudas, Igarka, Kalmar, Karlshamm, Karlskrona, Karlstad, Kemi, Kotka, Kristinestad, Leningrad, Lillesand, Lugnvik, Mantylouto, Marieberg, Mezen, Munksund, Norrkoping, Onega, Oregon, Oskarshamm, Patiniema, Raumo, Rundvik, Solvesborg, Stettin, Uddavalla, Uleaborg, Vancouver, Vasteras, Yxpila.
Wood pulp	Archangel, Kaliningrad, Murmansk, Stettin, Sundsval, Ventspil.
Sleepers ..	Bayonne, Bordeaux, Danzig.
Iron Ore ..	Beira, Bone, Coruna, Kirkenes, Lulea, Melilla, Narvik, Oxelosund, Port Ordaz, Rieme, Seven Islands, Stockholm, Vitoria.
Steelplates	Ymuiden.
General ..	Gothenburg, Stockholm.

Ships arrived light from—

Blankaholm, Emden, Ghent, Jersey, Rostok, Rotterdam, Ymuiden.

SECTION IV—Inland Barge Traffic.

There is no such traffic.

SECTION V—Water Supply.

1. (*a*) The Port is supplied by the Hartlepools Water Company.
   (*b*) Ships are supplied from hydrants fitted on certain quays.

2. Tests for contamination are carried out by the Hartlepool and West Hartlepool Authorities.

3. Hydrants are covered when not in use and hoses are properly stored.

4. There are no water boats in the district.
   The water is very hard but of excellent quality.

SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

(1) **List of Infected Areas—**

A list of infected ports from which ships are likely to arrive is prepared by the Medical Officer, and a copy of this list in the form of a letter is sent to the Customs and Pilots, and when considered advisable to the shipping agents. These notices are usually delivered by hand.

(2) **Radio Messages—**

(*a*) Permission by radio for vessels to enter the port is sent through the Harbour Master's Office and Cullercoats Radio Station.

(*b*) This port has been included by the Minister of Health on the list of "radio receiving ports" and messages sent to "Portelth, Hartlepool" are sent directly to the Port Health Office or to the home of the Port Medical Officer.

(3) **Notification otherwise than by Radio—**

Arrangements have been made for the notification to the Port Health Authority by the Customs and the Pilots of any ship requiring special medical attention on arrival in the port. Shipping agents also notify when they have received messages, whether by radio or telegram of sickness on board an expected arrival.

(4) **Mooring Stations—**

The mooring station established by the Authority with the concurrence of the Collector of Customs and the Harbour Master is at the buoys in the outer harbour. A plan of the harbour showing the exact position of the buoys was transmitted to the Minister of Health.

There is no mooring station within the docks.

(5) **Arrangements for—**

(*a*) Hospital accommodation for infectious disease ;
Cases of infectious disease, other than smallpox, are removed to Brierton Lane Isolation Hospital.

(*b*) Surveillance of contacts ;

Contacts remaining on board are kept under observation by the Medical Officer of Health, and on the vessel leaving, information is forwarded to the next port of call. Contacts leaving the ship are ordered to report to the Medical Officer of the town to which they are proceeding and the names and addresses of such contacts are forwarded to the Medical Officer of the town to which the contacts are proceeding.

(*c*) Cleansing and disinfection ;

Disinfectants are kept in stock ready for use in case of infectious disease. Cleansing and disinfecting are done by, or under the supervision of, the Port Health Staff.
Persons, clothing and other articles requiring cleansing and disinfecting are sent to the General Hospital, West Hartlepool.

SECTION VII—Smallpox.

(1) Smallpox patients would be sent to Langley Park Hospital, Langley Park, County Durham.

(2) Arrangements have been made with the County Borough of West Hartlepool to remove any smallpox cases arriving, or occurring, in the port, and they are responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Smallpox consultants available are in accordance with the Ministry of Health Regional Panel of consultants.

(4) Facilities for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox are provided at the area Public Health Laboratory.

SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease.

Merchant seamen are able to have treatment for Venereal Disease at the following places at the times stated.

General Hospital, West Hartlepool.	Males—Thursdays, 5-0 p.m.	
	Females—Mondays, 2-0 p.m.	
General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.	Monday & Friday	9-30—11-30 a.m.
	Wednesday	4-30— 6-30 p m.
	Thursday	2-00— 4-30 p.m.
Stockton & Thornaby Hospital, Bowesfield Lane, Stockton-on-Tees.	Tuesday—4-30 p.m. to 6-30 p m.	
	Saturday—9-0 a.m. to 10-30 a.m.	

Any requiring in-patient treatment would be accommodated at the General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.

Cards giving information of the places and times at which treatment for Veneral Disease can be had are delivered on board ships by the Inspector.

SECTION IX—Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

Table D.

Category	Disease	No. of cases during year		No. of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports ..		Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival		Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships		Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships.

There have been no cases of malaria on ships in or arriving at the port.

SECTION XI—Measures taken against Ships infected with or suspected for Plague.

There have been no such ships in the port.

SECTION XII—Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.

(1) *Procedure for Inspection of Ships for Rats—*

All ships arriving from foreign ports are searched as early as possible after arrival, to the extent that cargo will allow. After some of the cargo has been discharged from the holds further search is made.

(2) *Arrangements for the Examination of Rodents—*

All rodents recovered are examined superficially by the Inspector or the ratcatcher and any showing signs of not having been in good health are sent for pathological and bacteriological examination to Dr. T. Blower, Pathologist, General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.

(3) *Arrangements for Deratting of Ships—*

In the case of a minor infestation on a ship holding a valid deratting or deratting exemption certificate the port Ratcatcher carries out trapping or poisoning or both.

Deratting for the issue of a Deratting Certificate is done with cyanide by private contractors to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer.

The Contractor is not nominated by the Medical Officer. Firms who undertake fumigations are :—

Ben Wright & Co. Ltd.	Middlesbrough
Scientex Ltd.	South Shields
Milburn & Co. Ltd.	Sunderland
D. P. Servicing Co.	South Shields

(4) *Rat-proofing of Ships—*

Rat-proofing of new vessels is satisfactory. Old tonnage is improved as is necessary and practical.

Table E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports—

Category	Number
Black rats	Nil
Brown rats	Nil
Species not known	Nil
Sent for examination ..	Nil
Infected with plague.. ..	Nil

Table F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports—

No. of Deratting Certificates issued					No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with		After Trapping	After Poisoning	Total		
H.C.N.	Other fumigant (state method)					
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	23	23

In addition, 35 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued to coastwise vessels.

SECTION XIII—Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

Table G.

Inspections and Notices—

Nature and No. of inspections	Notices served		Result of serving notices
	Statutory notices	Other notices	
943	Nil	15 Verbal & informal	15 Complied with

The nuisances and sanitary defects consisted mainly of dirty and verminous quarters, defective and foul W.C.'s.

SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1943 and 1948.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings under the jurisdiction of this Authority. There are however, Mussels, Winkles and Cockles which can be picked from dock gates, walls and rocks, and which are liable to pollution from sewage. For this reason warning notices are posted from time to time drawing the attention of the public to the dangerous consequences which may arise from the consumption of such shell-fish.

SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

This is not an approved port for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous.

Dead bodies are removed immediately to the nearest mortuary and action taken to secure speedy interment of the same.

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WEST HARTLEPOOL